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LETTER TO COMMISSION
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TO: Mayor Phillip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: March 18, 2015

SUBJECT: Need for Appointments to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee

The purpose of this Letter To Commission is to urge the Mayor and Commission to make the necessary appointments to ensure that the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) has a full complement of members. As part of the City's Consolidated Plan public participation process, the AHAC must meet to issue its funding recommendations for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds before the July 8, 2015 Commission meeting.

Historically, the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) was the City committee charged with reviewing CDBG and HOME funding applications and subsequently issuing its recommendations to the Mayor and Commission. Ordinance 2014-3841 directed the sunset of CDAC on May 31, 2014. The ordinance further directed that the AHAC assume CDAC's traditional role of reviewing CDBG and HOME requests and offering recommendations for funding to the Commission.

While we have 11 of 18 members selected, the State requires that, at a minimum, representatives from the areas noted below are represented in the Committee's membership. We have not been compliant in this regard since the creation of the reconstituted Committee. These vacancies are:

- One citizen actively engaged in the residential home building industry in connection with affordable housing;
- One citizen engaged in banking or mortgage industry;
- One citizen representing areas of labor associated with affordable housing;
- One citizen actively engaged as an advocate for low-income persons in connection with affordable housing;
- One citizen actively engaged as a not-for-profit provider of affordable housing;
- One citizen who actively serves on the local planning agency pursuant to Florida Statute §163.3174 (Planning Board member); and
- One citizen who represents essential services personnel.

While 11 members constitute a quorum pursuant to the City's standards, the vacancies above prevent us from meeting the State's requirements for the committee's membership. Further, public review and comment by key stakeholders is invaluable in drafting funding recommendations for the City's federal and state funds.

If you have any questions, please see me.

JLM/KGB/MLR